



**CALIFORNIA
HIGH-SPEED RAIL
AUTHORITY**

BRIEFING: March 2012 BOARD MEETING AGENDA ITEM # 11

TO: Chairman Richard and Committee Members

FROM: Karen Greene-Ross: Deputy Director- Legislation

DATE: March 1, 2012

RE: Agenda Item #11 – Legislative Update

This will be an informational report on the status of legislation currently pending in the second year of the two year 2011-2012 session.

Important 2012 Legislative Dates:

HSRA Budget Hearings:

Assembly Budget Subcommittee #3 (Gordon, Blumenfield, Nielsen, Butler, Huffman, Jones, Valadao):

April 18, 2012 9 a.m. Capitol Room and pre-hearing date TBD

Senate Budget Subcommittee #2 (Simitian, Fuller and Lowenthal):

Pre-Hearing meeting: March 2, 2012 Capitol Room 3192

Hearing: March 13, 2012, Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts,
500 Castro Street, Mountain View, CA

April 9, 2012 Pre-hearing meeting Capitol Room 115 9:30-11;

April 18, 2012 Hearing Capitol Room 2040 (2:30 or upon adjournment of Rules
committee, whichever is later)

- April 27 – Last day for policy committees to hear and report to fiscal committees fiscal bills introduced in their house.
- May 11 – Last day for policy committees to hear and report to the floor non-fiscal bills introduced in their house.
- May 25 – Last day for fiscal committees to hear and report to the floor bills introduced in their house.
- June 1 – Last day to pass bills out of house of origin
- June 15 – Budget bill must be passed by midnight.
- July 6 – Last day for policy committees to hear and report bills
- Aug. 17 – Last day for fiscal committees to hear and report bills to floor.
- Aug. 20-23 – Floor session only
- Aug. 24 – Last day to amend bills on the floor

Aug. 31- Last day for any bill to be passed
 Sept. 30 – Last day for Gov to sign or veto bills
 Oct. 1 – Bills enacted on or before this date take effect January 1, 2013

Governance Bills

<u>AB 41</u>	
Author:	Hill (D)
Position:	
Location:	2/17/2012 Senate Third Reading
Summary:	Current law requires public officials who hold specified offices and who have a financial interest in a decision within the meaning of the Political Reform Act of 1974 to publicly identify the financial interest giving rise to the conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest, recuse themselves from discussing and voting on the matter, and leave the room until after the discussion, vote, and other disposition of the matter is concluded, except as specified. This bill would add HSRA Board members to this body of law. This bill contains other financial disclosure provisions similar to those in Board policy. The bill was amended to bar ex parte communications between Board members and potential contractors but does allow communications about the contracting process itself. This bill is currently in the Senate for a third reading.
Comments:	Authority Board originally took a formal support position of this bill.
Votes:	Sen. Floor 9/7/11: 37-0 Asm. Floor 4/14/11: 60-0
<u>AB 1455</u>	
Author:	Harkey (R),
Coauthors:	Garrick (R), Valadao (R), Achadjian (R), Berryhill (R), Donnelly (R), Grove (R), Hagman (R), Jeffries (R), Jones (R), Logue (R), Mansoor (R), Nielsen (R), Silva (R), & Wagner (R). Principal coauthor: La Malfa (R)
Position	
Summary:	This bill would abolish HSR by reducing the amount of the general obligation debt authorized under Prop 1a to the amount contracted as of January 13, 2013.
Location:	Introduced 1/9/11.
<u>AB 1523</u>	
Author	Perea (D)
Position	
Location	1/26/2012-A. TRANS.
Client Summary	Would appropriate \$2,000,000 from the High-Speed Passenger Train Bond Fund to the High-Speed Rail Authority for the purposes of funding a 3-year pilot project in the Central Valley to train unemployed workers for high-speed rail construction jobs. The bill would require the authority to work with various labor organizations to train a total of 400 clients in pre-apprenticeship programs that will lead to direct referrals to building trades unions, as specified.

<u>AB 1574</u>	Re-Introduction of AB 145 from 2011
Author:	<u>Galgiani (D)</u>
Position:	Author's office re-introduced as a placeholder.
Location:	2/1/2012 - A . PRINT
Summary:	This bill would repeal all of the provisions of the California High-Speed Rail Act. The bill would enact a new California High-Speed Rail Act. The bill would continue the High-Speed Rail Authority in existence with limited responsibilities and would place the authority within the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency. The 5 members of the authority appointed by the Governor would be subject to Senate confirmation, but existing members could continue to serve the remainder of their terms. The bill would authorize the authority to appoint an executive director, and would provide for the Governor to appoint up to 6 additional individuals exempt from civil service as authority staff. The bill would require the authority to adopt policies directing the development and implementation of high-speed rail, prepare and adopt a business plan and high-speed train capital program, establish a peer review group, select alignments for the routes of the high-speed train system established by law, adopt criteria for the award of franchises, and set fares or establish guidelines for the setting of fares. The bill would enact other related provisions.
<u>AB 2181</u>	
Author:	Galgiani (D)
Position:	
Location:	2/23/2012 - A . PRINT
Summary:	The California Prompt Payment Act dictates that a state agency that fails to make a timely payment for goods or services acquired pursuant to a contract with a specified business or organization is subject to a late payment penalty. This bill would include, within the list of specified businesses and organizations, state-certified small businesses working on the development, design, and construction of California's high-speed rail system under the California High-Speed Rail Act.
<u>AB 2185</u>	
Author:	<u>Lowenthal, Bonnie (D)</u>
Position:	
Location:	2/23/2012 - A . PRINT
Summary:	This is a spot bill . In its current form, it would conform High-Speed Rail Authority bond surety requirements with those for Caltrans' projects.
<u>SB 1189</u>	
Author:	Hancock (D)
Position:	
Location:	2/22/2012-Senate in PRINT
Summary:	This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would appropriate funding from the \$950 million net proceeds of bonds for intercity and commuter rail lines and urban rail systems for projects that eligible operators have requested and have been approved by the California Transportation Commission.